

Amendments to Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An aircraft video data recorder (VDR) system, comprising:
 - a. A digital memory array;
 - b. A signal generating device located strategically in the aircraft;
 - c. A coupler for receiving data signals from the signal generating device;
 - d. An encoder for converting the data signals to an IP protocol;
 - e. An interface for introducing the IP protocol signals to the memory array; and
 - f. A hardened housing for protecting the digital memory array from damage in the event of an accident; and
 - g. An acoustic locator comprising a pattern generator coupled to the hardened housing to assist in locating the VDR system in the event of an accident investigation.
2. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the encoder is located at the VDR.
3. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the encoder is located at the signal generating device.
4. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the signal generating device is an IP protocol camera.
5. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the signal generating device is an analog camera and said camera further includes a digital signal encoder.
6. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the signal generating device is an analog audio transmitter and said transmitter further includes a digital signal encoder.
7. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the VDR system further includes:
 - a) a plurality of signal generating devices, each of said devices generating a discrete signal and coupled to an encoder; and

b) a multiplexer, coupled to the encoders, for receiving the output from the encoders and combining the signals into a single signal for transmission to the memory.

8. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the VDR system further includes:

a) a plurality of dissimilar signal generating devices; and

b) a switched hub for managing the signals from the plurality of dissimilar signal generating devices.

9. (previously presented) The system of claim 8, wherein:

a) the signal generating device is a wireless device; and

b) the DVR system further includes a wireless access point coupled to the switched hub associated with the system for introducing the wireless signal from the wireless device to the system.

10. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the signal generating device is a legacy flight data acquisition and management system.

11. (original) The system of claim 1, further including a panic button device for sending an alert signal to the system when activated.

12. (previously presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the alert signal is also a control signal for controlling distribution of the output signals from the VDR when the panic button device is activated.

13. (original) The system of claim 1, further including a communication link for sending the data signals to an external receiving station.

14. (original) The system of claim 13, wherein the communication link is a communications satellite interface.

15. (original) The system of claim 13, wherein the communication link is a military radio.
16. (original) The system of claim 13, wherein the communication link is a wireless LAN.
17. (original) The system of claim 1, further including an output link directly to a LAN interface for distributing the data signals.
18. (original) The system of claim 17, further including a switch hub for distributing the output signals via the LAN interface.
19. (original) The system of claim 18, including an ARINC link for receiving the distributed output signals from the LAN interface.
20. (original) The system of claim 18, including an aircraft LAN for receiving the distributed output signals from the LAN interface.